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D-22607 Hamburg (DE)(54) **Atrial defibrillator and method for providing interval timing prior to cardioversion.**

(57) An atrial defibrillator (30) provides cardioverting electrical energy to the atria (16, 18) of a human heart (10) in need of cardioversion. The atrial defibrillator includes a first detector (50) for detecting ventricular activations of the heart, a second detector (54) for detecting atrial activity of the heart, and an atrial fibrillation detector (70) responsive to the second detector for determining when the atria of the heart are in need of cardioversion. The atrial defibrillator also includes a cardioverting stage (72, 74, 76) for applying the cardioverting electrical energy to the atria of the heart when the atria of the heart are in need of cardioversion and when the time between immediately successive ventricular activations is greater than a preselected minimum time interval.

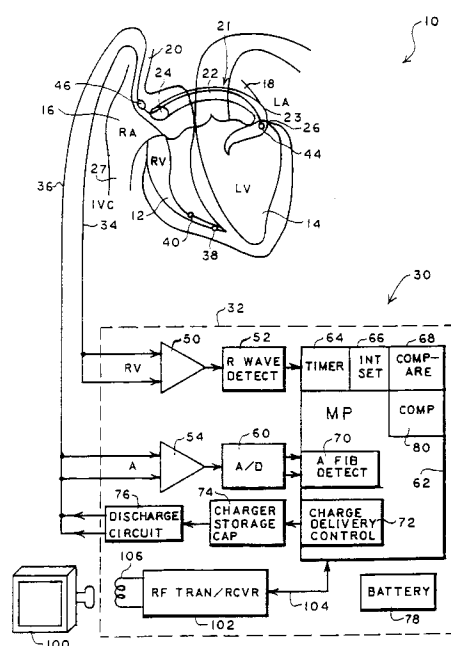


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 93 25 0120

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.5)
A	US-A-5 107 850 (OLIVE) * column 2, line 21 - column 6, line 37; figures * ---	1-6	A61N1/39
A	US-A-3 952 750 (MIROWSKI ET AL.) * column 3, line 32 - column 8, line 50; figures * ---	1,2	
A	EP-A-0 395 242 (VENTRITEX) * page 2, column 2, line 46 - page 4, column 6, line 28; figures * ---	1-5,9	
A	WO-A-92 14512 (MEDTRONIC) * page 10, line 24 - page 13, line 10; figures * ---	1,2	
A	US-A-3 738 370 (CHARMS) * column 3, line 27 - column 4, line 57; figures * -----	1,2	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.5)
			A61N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 October 1994	Examiner Rakotondrajaona, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			